



NOTICIAS

Quarterly Magazine of the
SANTA BARBARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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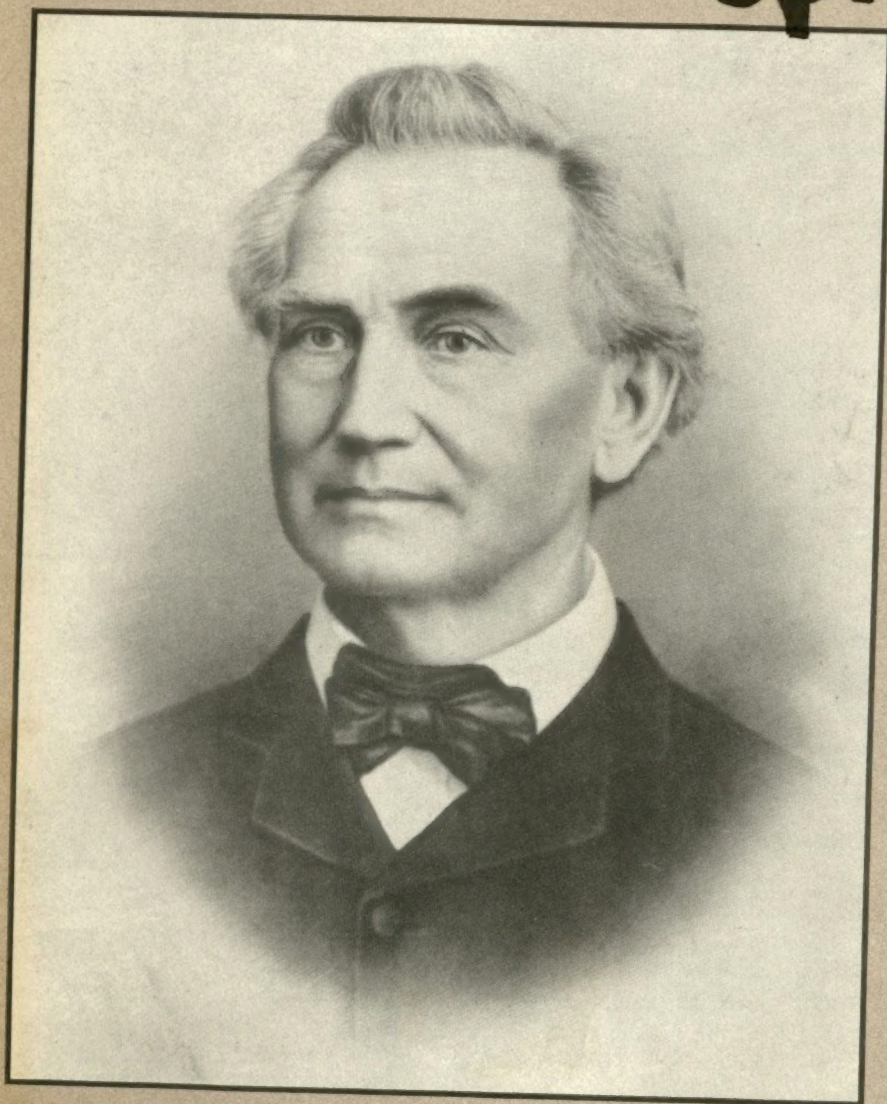
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QUARTERLY MAGAZINE OF THE SANTA BARBARA HISTORICAL SOCIETY

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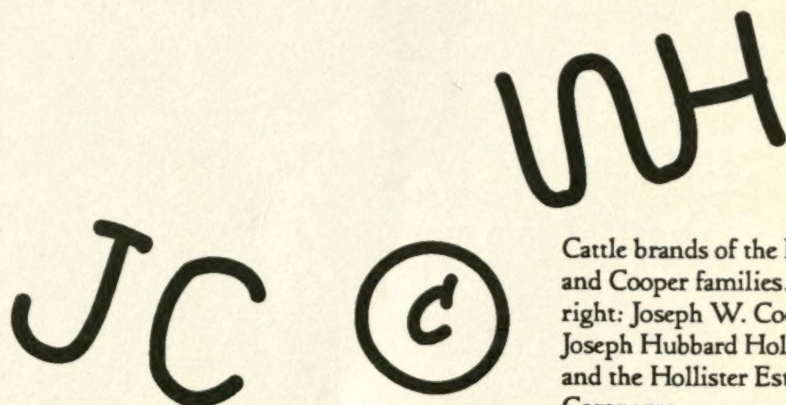


West With The
HOLLISTERS

A NOTE ON NOTICIAS:

You have probably already noticed this issue of NOTICIAS has a different look, the first format change for the Society's quarterly in 30 years. The reason for the change is simple: to make NOTICIAS as informative and readable as possible. The new size will allow for longer articles and larger pictures; the new paper stock will mean cleaner, sharper photo reproduction. We trust the new type-style will be pleasing to the eye and easy to read. In short, we have tried to emphasize visual appeal and readability in bringing you an informative journal in a lively style.

Michael Redmon, Editor



Cattle brands of the Hollister and Cooper families. Left to right: Joseph W. Cooper, Joseph Hubbard Hollister, and the Hollister Estate Company.

Cover Photo: W. W. Hollister, 1887

All photos in this issue are from the Historical Society's collection. The Thomas Dibblee portrait (p.30) is on loan to the Society from Virginia Dibblee and Thomas W. Dibblee, Jr. Santa Barbara College illustration is from their 1874 Register. Drawings of the Hollister brothers (pp.26-27) is from *A Pastoral Prince* by Frank Sands.

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WH © THE HOLLISTER FAMILY JC

By J. J. Hollister III

James J. Hollister III is a great grandson of William Welles Hollister and is an attorney in Santa Barbara. The following is an edited version of a talk delivered to The Westerners' Santa Barbara Corral in February 1988, with additional material from an unpublished manuscript by Walker A. Tompkins.

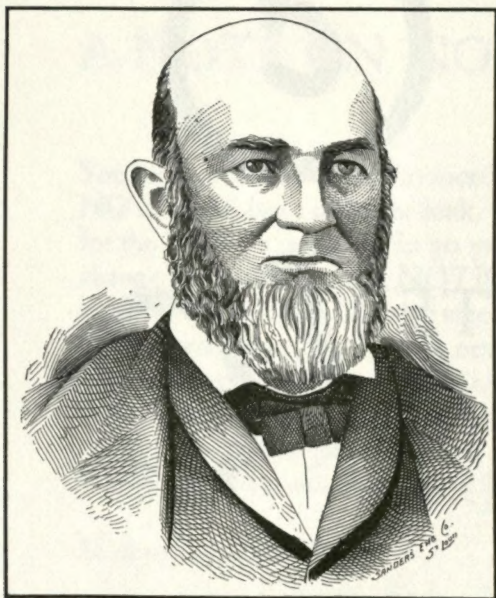
THE BEGINNINGS Daniel Webster once wrote, "It is a noble faculty of our nature which enables us to connect our thoughts, our sympathies, and our happiness, with what is distant in place and time; and looking before and after, to hold communion at once with our ancestors and our posterity." It is with this in mind that I introduce a family that arrived in California during that state's transition from its Hispanic past to the more rapid economic development of the American period. Gold drew many, but land and just the chance to start anew drew others; this was the case with the Hollister brothers.

The westward movement of the Hollister family began in England. Although records are unclear, it appears that John Hollister, Lord of Stinchcomb Manor in Gloucestershire's vale of Berkeley at the head of the Bristol Channel, sailed for the

New World in 1642, beginning the American line of the family. He settled in Glastonbury on the Connecticut River. Even though of the landed aristocracy in England, the pull west was too strong and the Hollisters became fixtures in Connecticut for seven generations.

In 1806, John Hollister, father of the California-bound brothers, again felt the pull west and moved from Connecticut to Ohio, where his mill became the foundation for the settlement of Hanover. He married Philena Hubbard there in 1809. They had five children from 1810 to 1820: Mary, later known as "Auntie Flint" after the death of her husband, Auriel Flint; Albert; Lucy, called "Auntie Brown" after the untimely death of her husband, Thomas B. Brown; William Welles, also known as W. W. or Will, and Joseph Hubbard, or "Hub." (See family chart pages 34-35 for dates.)

Upon the death of John Hollister in



Joseph Hubbard "Hub" Hollister,
wagon captain on the long trek.

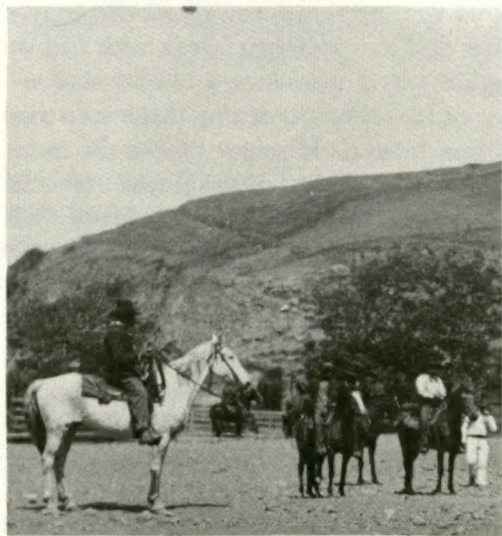
1839, William and Hub were left in charge of the farm, grist mill, iron foundry and mercantile store, for Albert had moved to Holt County in Missouri the previous year. By John's will, the three brothers inherited the total estate to the exclusion of Mary and Lucy, a pattern to be repeated on William Welles' death when he failed to provide for either of the surviving sisters.

The two brothers shared the responsibility of running the farm until 1852, when William joined the Licking County Wagon Train Company on a trek to California, while Hub remained to look after the farm and mills. The Wagon Company followed the Platte River, along the Oregon Trail, and then through the Humboldt sink in northern Nevada, arriving there after six months. Passing the future site of Reno, the band passed to the south of Lake Tahoe to the south fork of the American River and ended the trek at Hangtown, now called Placerville.

William settled for a short time in the gold country town of Volcano, staying at the Eureka Hotel, later known as the St. George. Here he met the Flint brothers and their cousin Llewellyn Bixby. Thomas Flint was a medical doctor and had formed a partnership with his brother Benjamin. The three had settled in Volcano, where they had opened a butcher shop to serve the hungry miners. Apparently, they told Hollister of the opportunity to buy the San Justo ranch in San Benito County and Will headed down there, passing through San Jose and on to San Juan Bautista.

There William met Patrick Breen, one of the few survivors of the ill-fated Donner Party. He had been the one who had earlier informed the Flint-Bixby partnership of the opportunity of purchasing the San Justo property. The 34,615 acre San Justo Ranch was owned by Francisco Pacheco. The ranch was part of the original San Justo Viejo y San Bernabe Ranch, granted to Rafael Gonzales in 1836. Pacheco had received title from General Jose

A sheep roundup, possibly at Gaviota, evokes the atmosphere of the Hollisters' cross country sheep drives of the mid-century.

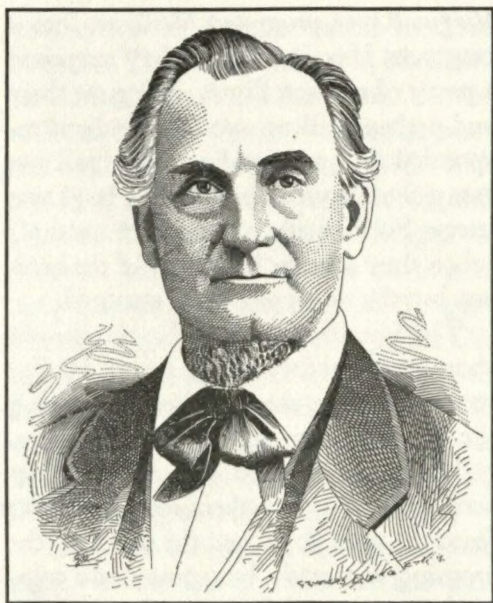


Castro, whose four leagues had been part of the original grant. William returned to San Francisco, bent on purchasing the Pacheco property. He returned home via the Panama isthmus and up the Mississippi River to Ohio. Once home, he convinced brother Hub into leaving the farm to drive a herd of sheep to California and eventual haven at San Justo.

Will knew that a sheep drive westward was practical. It had first been done

THE MOVE WESTWARD

in 1851 by Colonel Newton C. Peters and Nelson McMahon. Thus, in the last week of March 1853, the brothers assembled 4,000 sheep, 200 cattle and 15 assorted vehicles, from Conestoga wagons to water carts capable of carrying 100 gallons. On March 1, 1853, the Hollister party started out with Will in charge and Hub as wagon captain. Lucy was also in the party. By June 21, they had reached the Mississippi River and Lucy left the party for a short time to say farewell to brother Albert at nearby St. George, Missouri. It was at South Pass, Wyoming,



William Welles Hollister faced down a mutiny among the sheepherders.

where the Platte River reaches its northernmost point, that W. W. Hollister again met Flint and Bixby. They, too, had left California, shortly before Will did and were now driving a herd of sheep to California. It was decided to make the rest of the trip together.

They did not have an easy time of it. Piute Indian raids on the flocks near the



Virgin River prompted William into a response. Heavily armed, they surprised a party of a dozen Piutes, firing on them and perhaps killing two. The Indians responded by surrounding the Hollister camp about a week later with a large war party. Fortunately, the party moved off when they saw the firepower of the herders, but the threat of attack remained.

The Virgin River was also the site of a short-lived mutiny on the part of Hollister's men. The sheep balked at crossing the Virgin River, and the men, in turn, balked at the prospect of carrying sheep across one by one in their arms. Hollister faced the men down and the next day the crossing was made, but some 1,000 crippled sheep were left behind for the Indians. On the party trudged, to enter California on December 10, 1853, and to reach the Tejon Pass on December 31.

It was here that the partnership between Thomas and Benjamin Flint and Llewellyn Bixby on the one hand and William, Hubbard and Lucy Hollister on the other, was formalized, when they decided to go in together to buy the San Justo Ranch. In this way, the partners could afford the \$25,000 price tag. The partners purchased the ranch in June 1854 and received clear title from the U.S. Land Commission in San Francisco in 1858. The partners then divided the grant, the Hollisters ultimately taking the land on the eastern side of the San Benito River.

This partnership was short-lived. Flint and Bixby were dedicated to the sheep business, while the Hollisters were interested in establishing small, highly productive farm colonies rather than huge ranches. The partnership terminated by mutual agreement in February 1859.

Other partners had been picked up along the way. In 1855, Hub and Will had entered into a partnership with Albert

Dibblee of San Francisco, their commission agent for marketing the wool. It was on one of these trips to San Francisco that Will met Hannah Annie James, whom he married in 1862.

In 1858, Hub agreed to return to Ohio to sell the farm and drive another herd of

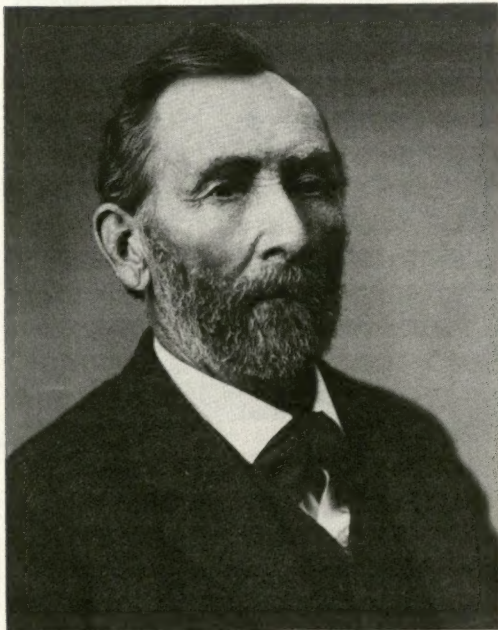


Lucy Hollister, or "Auntie" Brown, packed a mean pistol.

sheep west. He entered into partnership with Col. Peters of the 1851 sheep drive and Joseph Wright Cooper. Cooper had first visited California in 1850-51, trying his hand at mining. He had then joined the Peters-McMahon sheep drive west in 1851. After another fling in gold mining and trying his hand at the teamster business, he had returned to Missouri only to be ready to move west again in 1858.

With 12,000 purebred Merino sheep, the Hollister-Peters-Cooper train started in July 1858. They followed the old Santa Fe trail into southern California. They wintered at Fort Craig, New Mexico, on the Rio Grande, the herd swelling

to some 20,000 animals. By May 1860, they had leased land at San Dimas near Pomona, but found the area too windy. Cooper headed north to La Zaca Ranch in the Santa Ynez Valley where Peters had headquartered. Soon after, Cooper convinced Hub to bring the flock north to



J. W. Cooper, partner and friend.

the Lompoc Ranch, then owned by T. W. More.

The final partner now arrived. Albert Dibblee sent his brother Thomas B. to the auction of Colonel Peters' estate at La Zaca Ranch. Thomas was a New York lawyer and later co-owner of the Santa Anita Ranch in the Pasadena area. Will Hollister had also come for the auction, where Cooper met him for the first time. This began the deep friendship among the Hollister, Dibblee and Cooper families, which remains strong to this day.

At this time, T. W. More offered his

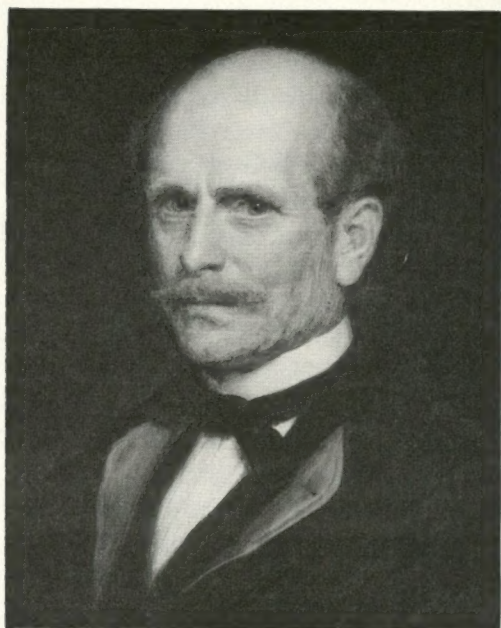
interest in the Lompoc ranch to these partners. Thomas Dibblee sold his interest in the Santa Anita Ranch and moved to Santa Barbara County, where he married Francisca de la Guerra in 1868. Will and Hub sold their San Justo Ranch and with the Dibblees bought the Lompoc and Mission Vieja de la Purisima ranches in 1863 for \$60,000, one-third of the purchase going to Will, one-third to the Dibblees and one-third to Hub and Cooper. Additional purchases included the Gaviota Ranch and the Santa Anita Ranch to the west, both part of the Nuestra Señora del Refugio grant. (See map, page 38.)

Will was buying up land in his own right. In the fall of 1860, he had purchased the 32,000 Cholome Ranch in the southeastern corner of Monterey County. There, he defended against the ravages of marauding neighbors in a dispute over fencing laws. Hollister, believing in the economic efficiency of small farms, wanted the cattlemen to erect fences to control their herds and lobbied for such a law in Sacramento. A group of ranchers came close to lynching Hollister over this hotly debated issue.

Will negotiated another land purchase in 1869, buying 2,500 acres in Tecolote Canyon in Goleta, later exercising an option for an additional 2,500 acres. This had been part of the Dos Pueblos Ranch owned by the Den family. He called his ranch "Glen Annie" after his wife, and here he built his permanent home.

By 1865, the Hollister-Dibblee partners owned some 140,000 acres in California.* Hub, on his own, bought the Chorro and San Luisito Ranches in San Luis Obispo County, moving his family there, including his widowed sister Mary and her four children.

*Lompoc and Mission Vieja: 42,000 acres; Santa Anita: 13,000 acres; Gaviota: 7,500 acres; La Es-pada: 15,500 acres; San Julian: 48,226 acres; Salsipuedes: 6,656 acres; Las Cruces: 6,000 acres.



Thomas Dibblee, long associated with the Hollister family in business and friendship.

At this same time, California was suffering from one of the worst droughts in its history. It basically did not rain at all in 1864. Figures vary for Santa Barbara County, but from 250,000-300,000 cattle at the start of the drought, the number dropped to 5,000-7,000 by the end of the dry spell. This kind of catastrophic loss occurred throughout the state, a blow from which the cattle industry never fully recovered.

The Hollister-Dibblee-Cooper partnership was also hard-hit, the number of sheep falling from around 15,000 in the spring of 1864 to about 5,300 a year later. Yet their percentage of loss was not as great as in the cattle industry and Albert Dibblee showed great shrewdness in marketing the wool. The partners also had the opportunity to buy up land at drought-depressed prices.

Joseph Cooper was also buying up land. He and Hub Hollister purchased the Santa Rosa Ranch in the Santa Ynez

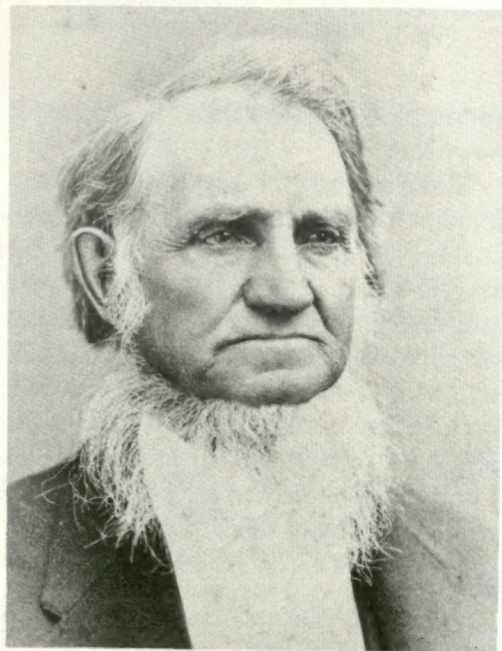
Valley from the Cota family in 1869, borrowing the money from Will. Since Hub was living in San Luis Obispo County, Cooper moved onto the ranch. In July 1871, he married Frances Mary, daughter of Albert Hollister, in a ceremony at Hub's Chorro Ranch. Family ties among the partners were growing ever stronger.

By 1865, Albert was the leading businessman in Holt County, Missouri, as his mills produced flour for the entire

ALBERT HOLLISTER COMES TO CALIFORNIA

state. Missouri, however, had been rent by the passions produced by the Civil War and had given rise to partisan guerrillas. The most infamous of these was William Quantrill, whose band rode through Missouri, burning and pillaging in the name of the Confederacy.

Albert Hollister
had good reason to head west.





Glen Annie, the home of Annie and W. W. Hollister.

Quantrill's men set fire to Albert's flour mills resulting in a total loss, a loss not covered by his insurance because the loss occurred as an "act of war." He remained in Holt County until 1871, when he came west to join his daughter Frances Mary and her husband Joseph Cooper. He eventually settled in Goleta on the 450 acre Fairview Ranch east of La Patera, where he resided until his death in 1891. Fairview Avenue in Goleta commemorates his ranch.

Albert lived close to family, just east of William and close to his niece Ida, daughter of brother Hub. Ida had married Sherman Stow and was living on the La Patera Ranch when Albert arrived. Albert's roots also spread into Goleta soil. One grandson, William Newton Hollister, became a Santa Barbara County Supervisor.

Although W. W. Hollister had decid-

ed to make Glen Annie his permanent home, a cloud hung over his purchase of the property. A lawyer, Charles Huse, had negotiated the sale for the Den heirs,

W. W. HOLLISTER IN SANTA BARBARA

including three children. The fact that the interests of three minors were involved cast doubt upon the legitimacy of the sale.

A San Francisco lawyer, Thomas B. Bishop, filed suit in 1876 on behalf of the Den estate to rescind the sale. A Superior Court judge originally ruled for Hollister, but the California Supreme Court overruled and ordered a new trial. In 1890, four years after W. W. Hollister's death, the Supreme Court ruled for the Den heirs. For his fee, T. B. Bishop received the lower ranch house, which he named



THE SANTA BARBARA COLLEGE.

"Corona del Mar." The upper house, which Hollister had built in 1871, mysteriously burned to the ground shortly after Annie was forced to vacate the premises. The ranch is remembered in the name of the road in Goleta, Glen Annie.

Hollister became one of Santa Barbara's greatest philanthropists. He had the drive and talent to initiate and develop several enterprises for the benefit of Santa Barbara, as well as maintaining a generous open hand for local causes and needy individuals.

His business projects in Santa Barbara included the financing of Stearns Wharf, as well as building a pier at Gaviota. He was one of the founders of Santa Barbara College, a short-lived institution providing elementary and high school education, located on the site of the San Marcos Building. After the school's closure, Hollister opened the Hotel Ellwood in the building.

Two of Santa Barbara's best known

landmarks owed their existence to Hollister. He financed the building of the Lobero Theater, originally intended as a venue for opera. He also put money up for the development of the Arlington Hotel, Santa Barbara's first luxury hostelry, which he subsequently bought. Other agencies that benefited from Hollister's largesse were the *Santa Barbara Press*, a Republican newspaper, and the community's first public library.

In March 1875, Hollister proposed a "Grand Avenue," which would stretch from State Street, which at that time ended at Mission Street, to La Patera and Glen Annie. By the turn of the century, this route had become Hollister Avenue, extending from the intersection of Mission and De la Vina streets to Goleta. In later decades, the eastern part of this route would become part of State Street, but the Hollister name lives on as the name of one of Goleta's main thoroughfares.

As Hollister became more involved in

the affairs of Santa Barbara and the Goleta Valley, he bought more land there, while the partnerships began to sell off other properties. In 1874, Hollister bought some 750 acres from his personal physician, R. F. Winchester, in the canyon that now bears Winchester's name. Hollister added this to some 960 acres he already owned to the north.

Disposition of some of the partners' ranches began this same year. W. W. Broughton of the California Immigration Union bought Lompoc and La Purisima Ranches for \$500,000 in order to develop a colony in the area. This became the origin of Lompoc. La Espada and El Cojo ranches were sold to the Sudden and Bixby interests, respectively. Joseph Cooper had already bought the interest in the Santa Rosa Ranch belonging to the Hub Hollister estate.

In the spring of 1881, the fruitful Hollister-Dibblee partnership came to an end. W. W. had almost died in a freak accident. He had spooned out some poison

with his pocketknife to curb an invasion of gophers. Then, without washing it, he used the knife while eating. The poison made him deathly ill, a turn of events which alarmed the Dibblees. After several meetings, it was agreed to dissolve the partnership and the Dibblees secured sole ownership of the San Julian Ranch, while W. W. Hollister retained the five smaller ranches of Salispuedes, Las Cruces, Bulito, Santa Anita and Gaviota. (See map page 38.) The acreage of these five was slightly in excess of the single ranch taken by the Dibblees. Annie Hollister would later dispute this division, without success.

After William's death in 1886, the five ranches were held in the name of the

THE CHILDREN OF W. W. HOLLISTER

"Estate of W. W. Hollister," but in 1910, the year following Annie's death, the five ranches came under the ownership of the Hollister Estate Company. In 1968, the Hollister family sold the ranches.

W. W. Hollister had six children. His oldest son, William Wallace, was a popular local resident, a fine horseman and one of the original members of the Santa Barbara Club, but he was also one of the original Wild West characters. In the spring of 1910, he was part of a gathering at the Santa Anita Ranch, when he was sent out for more liquor to help celebrate the end of spring roundups. Instead of flagging down the Southern Pacific train at the Drake Station, heading south for Santa Barbara, he stopped the northbound train for San Francisco. He was next heard riding horseback into the Palace Hotel, roaring drunk, and when told to leave, drew his ever present Colt revolver and killed a bartender.

Colonel and Annie Hollister, at one of many garden parties at Glen Annie.



HOLLISTER FAMILY:

JOHN HOLLISTER
B. 1777, D. 1839
M. 1809 Philena Hubbard
To Ohio 1806 from Connecticut

ALBERT GUY HOLLISTER
B. 1811, M. 1: 1839 Louisa M. Wood-
bridge, 2: 1848 Elizabeth Wickham,
D. 1891 in Goleta

WILLIAM WELLES HOLLISTER:
B. Jan. 12, 1818; M. 1862 Hannah A. Jar
1841-1909; D. Aug. 8, 1886 in Santa Bar

EDGAR AUGUSTA HOLLISTER
B. 1851, M. 1: Oct. 1881 Anna Owen,
M. 2: Dec. 1896 Sarah Baker
D. 1924

MARY E.
HOLLISTER
M. Phineas
D. Wilma

WILLIAM NEWTON
HOLLISTER, B. 1898,
M. 1921 Louisa K. Kel-
logg, D. 1962 Goleta

ETHEL MAY HOL-
LISTER, B. 1885
M. 1909 William E.
Strain, D. 1962, S.B.

ROBERT BAKER
HOLLISTER, B. 1899
M. 1921 Mary Warren
D. 1950, S.B.

ROBERT
B. 188
M. Gr
D. 192

JOSEPH WELLES
COOPER,
B. 1883
M. 1900 Marguerite
Horr
D. 1959 San Francisco

ELIZABETH HOLLIS-
TER STRAIN,
B. 1911
M. 1932 Jack V. Wood
Santa Barbara

CHARLES CLIVE
HOLLISTER
B. 1930
M. Mary Best
Santa Ynez

PHYL
B. 191
M. Sil
D. 197

BEATRICE ADAH COOPER
1906, M. 1930 Herman Baer
1976

Note: Space limitations preclude listing the extended family.

ISTER
ert Cham-
r Hale

WILLIAM WALLACE
HOLLISTER
B. 1865
D. 1923 Napa

STANLEY HOLLISTER
B. 1873
D. 1898
Rough Riders

JOHN JAMES HOLLISTER, SR.
B. 1870
M. Lottie Steffens 1872-1956
D. 1961 Santa Barbara

LEONEL
ELLWOOD
HOLLISTER
B. 1872, D. 1

JOSEPH STEFFENS HOLLISTER
B. 1903
M. Katherine Montayne
D. May 1953
Santa Barbara

JOHN JAMES HOLLISTER, JR.
B. 1900
M. 1928 Cynthia Boyd
D. 1961
Santa Barbara

CLINTON BENNETT HOLLIS
B. 1905
M. 1: 1935 Amelia Davis
2: 1948 Rebecca Doyle
D. 1982
Santa Barbara

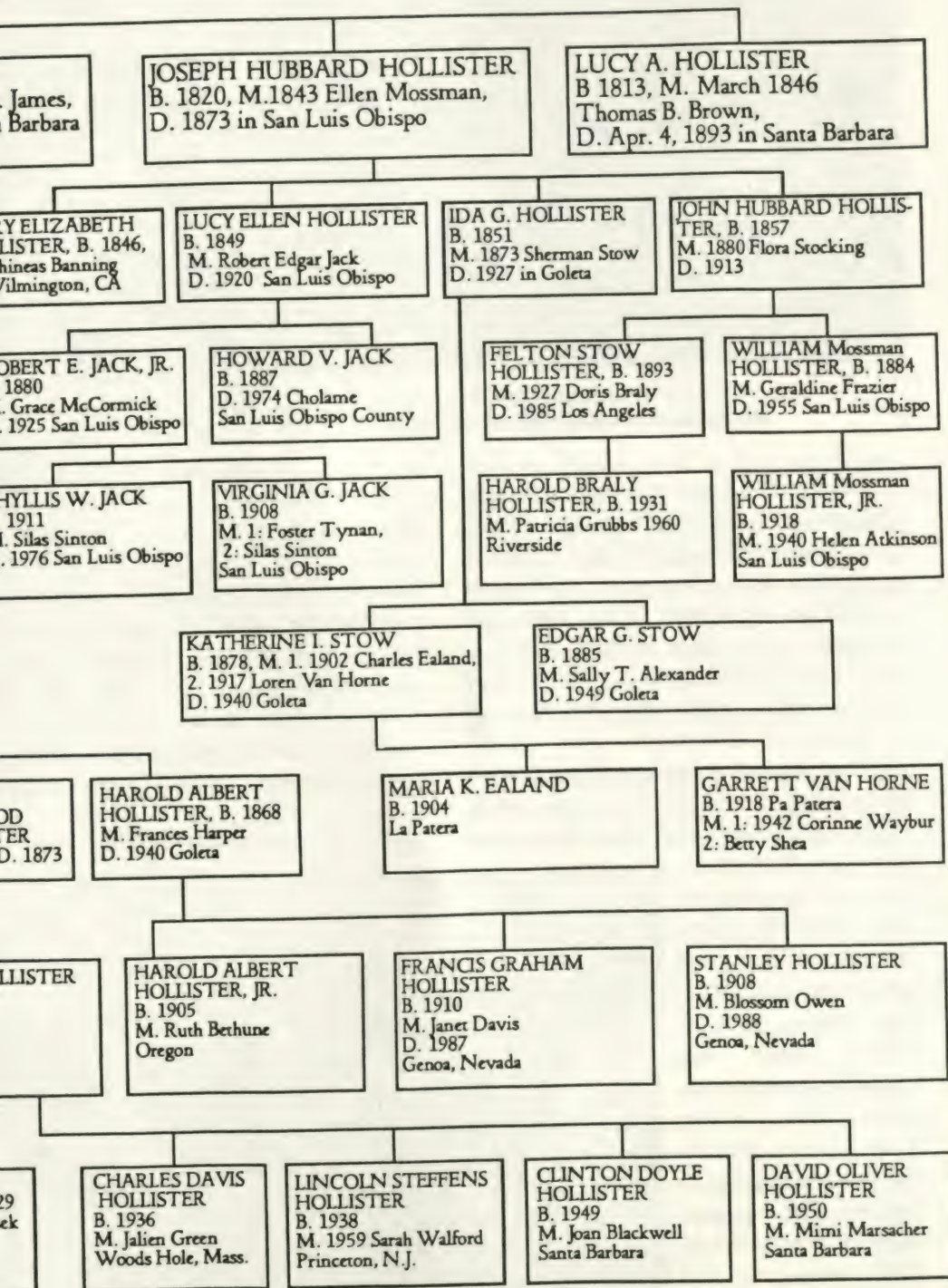
JOHN HOLLISTER
WHEELWRIGHT

ELIZABETH
HOLLISTER
B. 1928
M. Franklin Keville
San Francisco

JOHN JAMES
HOLLISTER, III
B. 1932, M.1: 1956
V.A. Castagnola, 2: Barba-
ra Benning, Santa Barbara

CYNTHIA JANE
HOLLISTER, B. 1929
M. 1: George A. Masek
2: G. Peter Nagel
Santa Barbara

ROOTS AND BRANCHES





Jim, Will and Harry Hollister,
nattily attired sons of Colonel Hollister.

For this, he spent some time in San Quentin and then went to live in the Napa Valley, where he ultimately died in an accident with a wagon and mule team.

Hollister's first born, Jennie Byres, later known as Jane Hale, married a widower, Robert Chamberlain, in 1885. With her husband's death in 1889, she was left in charge of four stepchildren. Jennie lived on the corner of Laguna and Pedregosa streets in a walled-in property with its own dairy and a staff of twelve live-in servants. Her chauffeur kept her touring cars in perfect running condition and her elegant caravans to her own Arroyo Hondo Ranch were classic Sunday excursions. One car was open, with buffalo robes for warmth. She became like a second mother to her brother Jim's sons, Jack and Joe.

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Stanley Hollister was in his first year of Harvard Law School when he enlisted in Colonel Theodore Roosevelt's Rough Riders and sailed to Cuba for duty in the Spanish-American War. He had survived the charge up San Juan Hill without a scratch when a shrapnel fragment grazed Roosevelt's wrist and struck Stanley in the chest. An enemy bullet then shattered his hip while he was making his way to the first aid station.

Stanley survived even this and was evacuated from Cuba by hospital ship and placed in a military infirmary at Fortress Monroe, Virginia. Dr. Winchester travelled from Santa Barbara to care for him, but Stanley caught typhoid fever at the hospital and died on August 8, 1898. After Roosevelt became President, he visited Santa Barbara and made a personal visit to Annie at Jennie's house at Laguna

Stanley Hollister on the left.





Wounded Rough Rider, Stanley Hollister, and his visitor from Santa Barbara, Dr. Winchester. Heads circled on original, rare photo.

and Pedregosa streets, in recognition of Stanley's sacrifice.

John James Hollister, Sr., also known as Jim, went to MIT to study mining and then finished at Stanford University in 1895, the first graduating class at Stanford. Jim was president of the junior class and his future wife, Lottie Steffens, was secretary.

Lottie was the daughter of Joseph Steffens, a banker who had been the principal orator at Promontory, Utah, during the ceremony celebrating the linking of the Central Pacific and Union Pacific Railroads. Lottie's brother was the well-known muckraking journalist, Lincoln Steffens. After spending four years in Germany obtaining her doctorate in psychology, Lottie returned to America and married Jim in her father's home in Sacramento. The newlyweds honeymooned at the old Ortega adobe in Santa Anita Canyon, utilized by W. W. Hollister as a ranch headquarters until his death.

After completing Stanford, Jim had gone to Nome, Alaska, to look for gold and thereafter, with his brother Harold, went to Mexico to look for precious min-

erals on a huge ranch held by the Chamberlain family. Jim helped run the Chamberlain mines until 1910, after his mother Annie's death in Santa Barbara. He returned to become manager of the Hollister Estate Company. He built a magnificent redwood mansion in Bulito Canyon, as a railroad fill across the lower section of the Santa Anita Canyon had ruined the ocean view.

Jim Hollister was an expert horseman and a renowned roper. Horses had to be kept razor sharp for the year-round tending of the herds and especially for the branding and weaning activities of the spring. Horses were attuned to endurance and the bit by daily fifteen mile rides on the secluded beach. This prepared the horses for the rough ranch terrain of canyons and steep hills.

Jim managed a crew of around fifteen men whose families lived on the ranch in the homes provided for them. Some of the finest vaqueros in the area worked on the Hollister ranch: Vicente Ortega from Arroyo Hondo, Vicente Gavarra from Las Cruces, Fred Hauke, Frank Pacheco, and Bud and Rod Howerton from Gole-

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To Ohio 1806 from Conn

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M. J. W. Cooper

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HOLLISTER, B. 1899
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Santa Barbara

CHARLES CLIVE
HOLLISTER
B. 1930
M. Mary Best
Santa Ynez

BEATRICE ADAH COOPER
B. 1906, M. 1930 Herman Baer
D. 1976

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E BYRES HOLLISTER
B. 1885, M. 1: 1885 Robert Cham-
berlain, 2: Clinton Bennett Hale
D. 1938 Santa Barbara

WILLIAM WALLACE
HOLLISTER
B. 1865
D. 1923 Napa

STANLEY HOLLISTER
B. 1873
D. 1898
Rough Riders

JOHN JAMES HOLLISTER, SR.
B. 1870
M. Lottie Steffens 1872-1956
D. 1961 Santa Barbara

LEON
ELLIS
HOLLISTER
B. 18

HOLLISTER
M. Joseph Wheelwright
D. 1911

JOSEPH STEFFENS HOLLISTER
B. 1903
M. Katherine Montayne
D. May 1953
Santa Barbara

JOHN JAMES HOLLISTER, JR.
B. 1900
M. 1928 Cynthia Boyd
D. 1961
Santa Barbara

CLINTON BENNETT
B. 1905
M. 1: 1935 Amelia Davis
2: 1948 Rebecca Doyle
D. 1982
Santa Barbara

DA WHEEL-
RIGHT
B. 1911
M. 1950 Klaus Schmidt
D. 1982

JOHN HOLLISTER
WHEELWRIGHT

ELIZABETH
HOLLISTER
B. 1928
M. Franklin Keville
San Francisco

JOHN JAMES
HOLLISTER, III
B. 1932, M.1: 1956
V.A. Castagnola, 2: Barba-
ra Benning, Santa Barbara

CYNTHIA JAN
HOLLISTER, B.
M. 1: George A.
2: G. Peter Nagel
Santa Barbara

TER
839
Hubbard
Connecticut

ROOTS AND BRANCHES

ISTER:
annah A. James,
in Santa Barbara

JOSEPH HUBBARD HOLLISTER
B. 1820, M. 1843 Ellen Mossman,
D. 1873 in San Luis Obispo

LUCY A. HOLLISTER
B 1813, M. March 1846
Thomas B. Brown,
D. Apr. 4, 1893 in Santa Barbara

MARY ELIZABETH
HOLLISTER, B. 1846,
M. Phineas Banning
D. Wilmington, CA

LUCY ELLEN HOLLISTER
B. 1849
M. Robert Edgar Jack
D. 1920 San Luis Obispo

IDA G. HOLLISTER
B. 1851
M. 1873 Sherman Stow
D. 1927 in Goleta

JOHN HUBBARD HOLLIS-
TER, B. 1857
M. 1880 Flora Stocking
D. 1913

ROBERT E. JACK, JR.
B. 1880
M. Grace McCormick
D. 1925 San Luis Obispo

HOWARD V. JACK
B. 1887
D. 1974 Cholame
San Luis Obispo County

FELTON STOW
HOLLISTER, B. 1893
M. 1927 Doris Braly
D. 1985 Los Angeles

WILLIAM Mossman
HOLLISTER, B. 1884
M. Geraldine Frazier
D. 1955 San Luis Obispo

PHYLLIS W. JACK
B. 1911
M. Silas Sinton
D. 1976 San Luis Obispo

VIRGINIA G. JACK
B. 1908
M. 1: Foster Tynan,
2: Silas Sinton
San Luis Obispo

HAROLD BRALY
HOLLISTER, B. 1931
M. Patricia Grubbs 1960
Riverside

WILLIAM Mossman
HOLLISTER, JR.
B. 1918
M. 1940 Helen Atkinson
San Luis Obispo

KATHERINE I. STOW
B. 1878, M. 1. 1902 Charles Ealand,
2. 1917 Loren Van Horne
D. 1940 Goleta

EDGAR G. STOW
B. 1885
M. Sally T. Alexander
D. 1949 Goleta

LEONEL
ELLWOOD
HOLLISTER
B. 1872, D. 1873

HAROLD ALBERT
HOLLISTER, B. 1868
M. Frances Harper
D. 1940 Goleta

MARIA K. EALAND
B. 1904
La Patera

GARRETT VAN HORNE
B. 1918 Pa Patera
M. 1: 1942 Corinne Waybur
2: Betty Shea

TT HOLLISTER

Davis

le

HAROLD ALBERT
HOLLISTER, JR.
B. 1905
M. Ruth Bethune
Oregon

FRANCIS GRAHAM
HOLLISTER
B. 1910
M. Janet Davis
D. 1987
Genoa, Nevada

STANLEY HOLLISTER
B. 1908
M. Blossom Owen
D. 1988
Genoa, Nevada

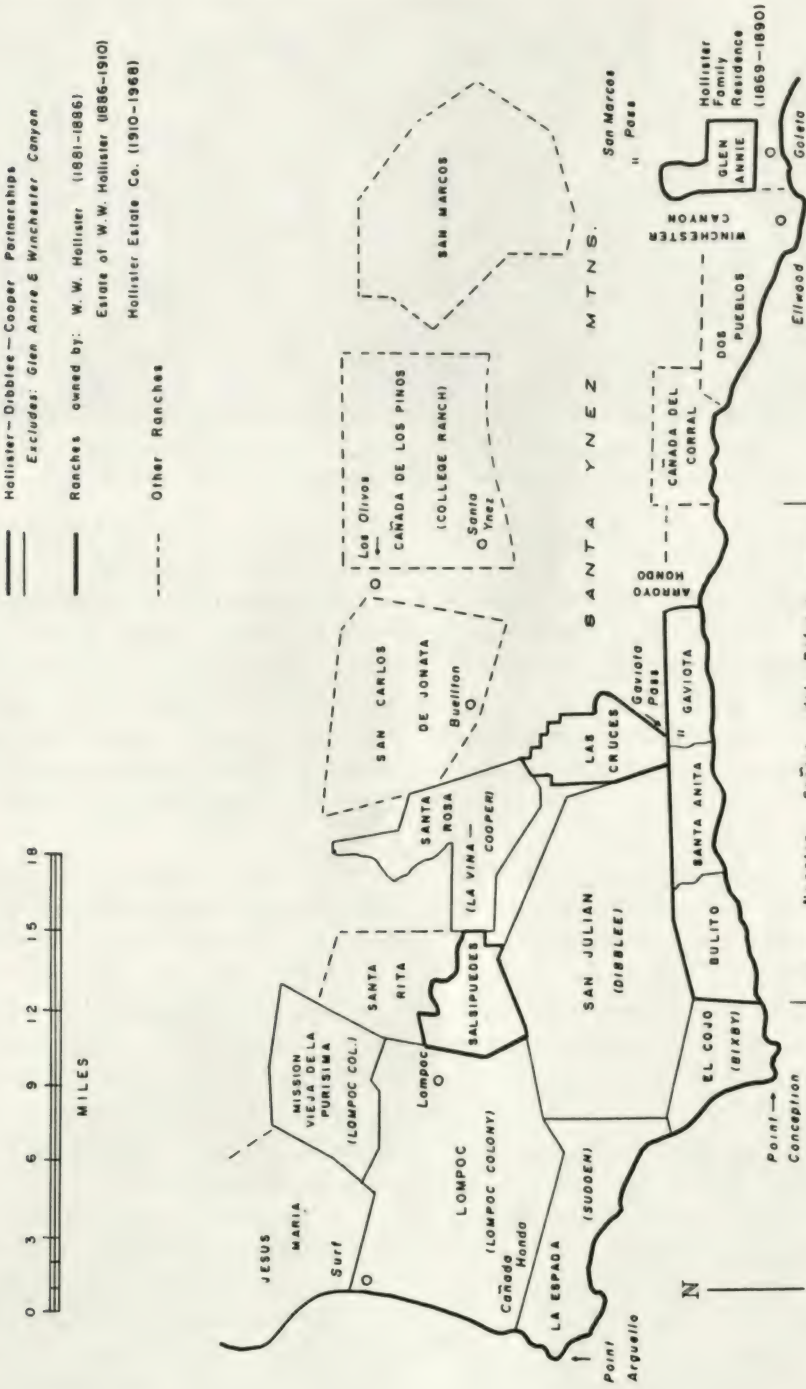
JANE
R, B. 1929
e A. Masek
Nagel
a

CHARLES DAVIS
HOLLISTER
B. 1936
M. Jalien Green
Woods Hole, Mass.

LINCOLN STEFFENS
HOLLISTER
B. 1938
M. 1959 Sarah Walford
Princeton, N.J.

CLINTON DOYLE
HOLLISTER
B. 1949
M. Joan Blackwell
Santa Barbara

DAVID OLIVER
HOLLISTER
B. 1950
M. Mimi Marsacher
Santa Barbara



P A C I F I C O C E A N



Santa Anita Canyon in the 1890's.

ta. Some went on to compete successfully on the rodeo circuit. Jim encouraged competition among his hands, by creating the "Hollister Class" in Santa Barbara's annual Fiesta celebration, with a Visalia saddle as first prize. It was rare that one of his own men did not win it. Jim was later elected to the Cowboy Hall of Fame along with his neighbor and friend Fred Bixby of the Cojo and Jalama ranches.

The center of ranch operations was the Gaviota store which served the ranch families. It was also a road stop for travellers on the highway. With a general store and post office, it was run from the mid 1920's to the eve of World War II by Walter Boone. Further west, Drake School was established in Santa Anita Canyon to see to the educational needs of the children of the ranch and the nearby railroad maintenance station. These railroad men and their families lived in outfit

cars on a side track. The Drake station and the railroad were vital links to the outside world for the ranch families, especially in the winter when muddy roads became all but impassable.



Jim Hollister, Sr., right, around 1940.

From 1910 to 1958, Jim and Lottie Hollister developed the Santa Anita Ranch, but Jim was also involved in California politics. He twice served as State Senator, once in 1924 as a Republican and then in 1936 as a Democrat. Interestingly

ough, Jim and Lottie had been classmates of Herbert Hoover back at Stanford. Hoover had served as treasurer of the junior class. Neither had thought very highly of Hoover. In fact, when Hoover became President, Lottie threw her Hoover vacuum cleaner into Bulito Creek to show what she thought of the nation's choice.

Lottie was indeed a strong-minded woman. After one argument with her, Jim marched out of the house by way of the kitchen backdoor. As he passed the kitchen window, he caught the eye of Daniel Ling Pong, who, as staff major-domo, was in charge of the ranch's hundreds of chickens and was the chief cook. Daniel called out, "Alla same, Missuh Hollister, evi man have him own boss!" It was reported Jim failed in his pursuit of his head cook.

As noted earlier, Hub and his family had come to settle on the Chorro and Luisito ranches near Morro Bay. In the shade

THE HUBBARD HOLLISTER FAMILY

of a towering granite dome, Hub lived in an adobe house that is today a state Historic Point of Interest. The granite dome overlooking the house is known as Hollister Peak.

One of Hub's daughters, Mary Elizabeth, married Phineas T. Banning in an elaborate ceremony at Will's Glen Annie Ranch. Banning and his brother Alexander had run the first regular stage line between Los Angeles and San Pedro in the 1850's. Throughout his life, Banning was a promoter for improved transportation in southern California, and, in fact, made a speech in Santa Barbara in 1876 extolling the virtues of good transportation, especially railroads.

W. W. Hollister shared these beliefs. From 1870 to 1878, Hollister fought to

bring a railroad to Santa Barbara. His chief opposition was County Supervisor Thomas Bard and a railroad magnate Thomas Scott, who wished to develop a major trading center at Hueneme, thus relegating Santa Barbara to the position of commercial backwater. By 1878, the various proposals for a railroad had come to nothing due to political wrangling. Hollister would not live to see the railroad finally come to Santa Barbara in 1887.

As Mary chose the bustling life of Banning House in Wilmington, another of Hub's daughters, Lucy Ellen, chose the traditional family enterprise of ranching. She married the Hollisters' longtime ranch manager, Robert Edgar Jack, who had come out from New York to work for the family at San Justo in 1859. They settled at the Jack Ranch some 50 miles from Paso Robles.

Glen Annie Ranch was the site for romance for another of Hub's daughters, Ida. During a visit to the Goleta ranch, Ida met Sherman Stow, son of the California assemblyman and lawyer, W. W. Stow of San Francisco, who owned the La Patera Ranch next to Glen Annie. W. W. Stow and W. W. Hollister did not see eye to eye. Stow felt that Hollister was responsible for raising property taxes in the area, through the high prices he paid for land and by making expensive improvements at Glen Annie.

Nevertheless, Stow blessed the marriage after meeting Ida. The couple settled at La Patera and had two children of note. Their daughter Katherine was married twice, first to Charles Ealand. They had a daughter, Maria. Later she married Loren Van Horne and they had a son, Garrett.

The second child of note was Edgar Stow, who became a California senator and ran against his cousin, J. J. Hollister,

Sr., in 1936. The Democrat Hollister defeated Edgar, who never ran again. Upon Edgar's death, sister Katherine returned to Goleta to raise her children and to run La Patera.

Clinton Bennett Hollister was raised, along with his twin sister Jane, in Mexico, until Jim and Lottie returned to Cali-

THE CHILDREN OF J. J. "JIM" HOLLISTER, JR.

fornia. At the age of nine, Clint was put on a train from Santa Barbara to Boston, where he attended boarding school. It was reported the young man did not mind being away from his strong-willed mother. Clint went on to Groton and then Harvard, where he took his medical degree. He returned to live out his life on the ranch and to practice medicine in the Santa Barbara area.

Jane, Clint's sister, attended Bryn Mawr and took an advanced degree in Jungian psychology. She and her husband, a psychiatrist trained at Harvard, developed a successful practice in San

Francisco, splitting their time between a home in Kentfield in Marin County and their ranch near Cojo Canyon, at the west end of the Hollister Ranch.

The continuing links between the Hollister and Dibblee families are illustrated by the career of another of Jim's sons, Joseph Steffens. After attending the Taft School, Joe went to Yale and received a doctorate in geology. He had been inspired by his lifelong friend, Thomas Wilson Dibblee, Jr., one of California's most eminent geologists, who had developed his interest in the field as a boy rambling the open stretches of the San Julian Ranch, which the Dibblees had received upon the breakup of their partnership with the Hollisters.

Joe Hollister, in turn, inspired two of his brother Clint's sons to also seek careers in geology. One son, Charles Davis, became the Dean of International Studies at the Woods Hole Institute in Massachusetts, the famous oceanographic research center. The other son, Lincoln Steffens, became the youngest full professor in ge-

Dehorning cattle in Gaviota, Jack Hollister operating, Hal Hollister standing. On horseback, l. to r., Fred Hauke, Bud Howerton, Vicente Gavarra.



ology at Princeton and headed the team that examined the rocks brought back from the moon.

The Dibblee family also played an important role in the life of another of Jim Hollister's sons, John James, Jr., known as Jack to his friends and JoJo to the family. Jack attended Groton, then Harvard and developed a close friendship with Harrison Dibblee, Jr., grandson of Albert Dibblee. Upon graduation, Jack landed a position in San Francisco, where Harrison introduced him to his future wife, Margaret Alexander Kittle Boyd, known as Cynthia.

The marriage got off to a less than auspicious start. On the honeymoon in Waikiki, Jack indulged in his love for the ocean, developed as a boy on the beach of the Santa Anita Ranch. After the first day, he ended up in the hotel infirmary, victim of a third degree sunburn. He spent the rest of the trip tending to his burns, while Cynthia enjoyed the sights of Oahu alone.

At the height of the Depression in 1932, Jack returned to help his parents run some 35,000 acres of Hollister properties. He moved his family into a small house about 200 yards from Jim's and Lottie's 6,000-square foot home in Bulito Canyon. In 1941, Jack moved to Winchester Canyon after the death of Harold Hollister and took over that part of the Hollister Estate Company business, remaining an officer of the Company until his death in 1961.

Jack had worked in a stock brokerage firm in San Francisco, but also owned a small company making inventions on the side. He put his skills as a master craftsman and carpenter to work on the ranches, renovating buildings and constructing a generator to supply electricity to his father's house and surrounding buildings.

Before that, everyone had depended on gaslight.

Soon after the move to Winchester Canyon, Jack played an interesting role in one of the most dramatic events in local history, the shelling of the Ellwood oil fields by the Japanese on February 23, 1942.

Locals had settled down behind their blackout curtains to listen to President Roosevelt's fireside chat, scheduled to begin at 7 P.M. About 7:07, the quiet of Winchester Canyon was shattered by a series of explosions and brilliant flashes of light. A Japanese submarine with a 5.5-inch gun had surfaced and taken aim at the Luton-Bell oil storage tanks on the coast below. The 25 shells lobbed onto the shore by the submarine did little damage, as many overshot their target to land up in Winchester Canyon above the Jack Hollister place. Initially, the family thought all the commotion was the result of American maneuvers, perhaps some sort of target practice.

By the next day, the true state of affairs was known and a mild form of panic set in. Eddie Hames, the ranch foreman, emptied his rifle at a supposed Japanese spy. It turned out to be a wind-blown blooming yucca plant in a patch of chaparral on a hill. For several weekends following the attack, Jack took the family up into the back of Winchester Canyon to laboriously cut a trail designed to afford a quick escape route in case of invasion. The trail was to take the family over the Santa Ynez Mountains into Paradise Canyon.

The first attack on American soil since the War of 1812 produced a sense of foreboding nationwide. Demands were heard in Congress to remove all Japanese from the West Coast. California Democratic Representative Daniel Elliot stated in the

Congressional Record, "We start moving the Japs in California into concentration camps and we do it damn quick!" Republican Representative Leland Ford of California summed up his report on alleged signals being flashed by Japanese spies, saying, "These Japs have got to be put where they can't do that sort of signaling."

Jack Hollister had unwittingly contributed to this wave of fear.

The night of the shelling, Jack had climbed into his van and driven to a ridge on the western side of Winchester Canyon, in an attempt to get a better view of the coastline. With only his parking lights on, Jack negotiated the numerous twists, turns and dips of the road. From afar, all that could be seen were lights mysteriously appearing, then disappearing up in the canyon. The next morning, the authorities received numerous reports that a Japanese spy had been signaling the submarine from the western side of Winchester Canyon!

Jack swore the family to secrecy to never tell where he had been that night, and the secret has remained safe until now. Thus it was that Jack Hollister contributed in a small way to the groundswell of rumor and fright that resulted in President Roosevelt signing an executive order on April 7, 1942, that forcefully removed some 117,000 Japanese from their homes to inland detention camps, where they remained for the duration of the war.

Jack entered the California State Senate

in 1955, completing Clarence Ward's term, and then was re-elected to office in 1956 and 1960. He unexpectedly died in



A magazine photo from 1942 shows the crater of an unexploded 5-in. shell, fired from a Japanese submarine a half mile off shore. It missed a flat oil storage tank nearer the coast.

office in November 1961, six months after his father's death. The state of California built the "Senator Jack Hollister Memorial Bridge" over the Huasna River, a feeder of the Santa Maria River, in his honor. At the time of his death, the *Santa Barbara News-Press* called him, "lawmaker, rancher, and yachtsman."

The common thread running through the story of the Hollisters and their partners is land: the beauty and promise of

the land. For the Hollisters and the Bixbys, it is a thread running back to the origins of England, a thread growing ever longer from England to New England, the American Midwest and, finally, California. There the partners developed a ranching empire that spread from Monterey County to the Los Angeles area.

The links of friendship among the partners' families were nurtured by this common love of the land and remained strong into the modern era. In the summer of 1940, a Southern Pacific freight engine threw a spark which began a fire that burned across the flats between the San Augustine and Bronco Hondo Canyons, driving to the top of the Gaviota range to burn out the fence line between the Santa Anita and Cojo-Jalama ranches. Jim Hollister, Will's son, rode through the canyons and hills to the Cojo-Jalama Ranch the next day, where he met Fred Bixby, nephew of Llewellyn Bixby. There they spoke of the land and of the now burned fence line, result of William Welles' sponsorship decades before.

The families had remained linked to the land and to each other since that sheep drive some 90 years ago. The links remain still.



Senator Jack Hollister with Governor Edmund G. Brown, during Old Spanish Days of 1961.

New Histories Announced

- Well-known local historian and former Society Trustee, Walker A. Tompkins, has chronicled the history of Santa Barbara's oldest medical facility in his new book, *Cottage Hospital: The First Hundred Years*. He traces the growth of the hospital from its 25-bed beginnings to its present position as the largest hospital on the coast between the Bay Area and Los Angeles.
 - Trustee David F. Myrick's long-awaited book on Montecito will be out shortly. *Montecito and Santa Barbara: From Farms to Estates* is the first volume of a projected two-volume work by this author of numerous works on the American West.
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